



COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Scott J. Svonkin
Chairperson

Daniel Falcon
Vice-Chairperson

Barry R. Binder
William K. Callagy
Michael G. Cheung
Rickey Ivie
Don Lee
Curren D. Price, Jr.
Rose Reets
Patricia Torres

MINUTES

Meeting of February 12, 2004
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Department Head's Room
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Commissioners Present: Barry Binder, William Callagy, Dan Falcon, Don Lee, Scott Svonkin

Commissioners Absent: Michael Cheung, Rickie Ivie, Curren Price, Rose Reets, Patricia Torres

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Svonkin called the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:22 a.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

The approval of the minutes was continued to the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers was continued to the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE UPDATES AND PLANNING-WORKER'S COMPENSATION

Chairperson Svonkin spoke on State Insurance Commissioner Garamendi's proposal on workers' compensation insurance, noting that Commissioner Garamendi's goal is to get workers back to work. He also discussed the high training costs associated with rehabilitating workers. Commissioner Callagy commented that the workers compensation system favors injured workers and was unaffordable to employers. The Commission also discussed the low quality of workers compensation benefits in California and how high costs for this type of insurance have contributed to job losses in California. The Commission then discussed establishing a permanent subcommittee on the workers compensation insurance issue in California.

(Commissioner Binder joined the meeting).

DISCUSSION ON REPARATION ISSUES

Chairperson Svonkin discussed expanding the Commission's discussion on Holocaust insurance issues to other reparations issues. Gordon Trask, County Counsel, noted that the Commission's jurisdiction is limited to advising the Board of Supervisors on insurance issues and not on broad social issues. Commissioner Falcon suggested conducting a joint discussion on reparations issues with the Human Relations Commission. After agreeing to confer with County Counsel on how to more narrowly define the issue, the Commission continued the discussion on the reparations issue to the next meeting.

MATTERS NOT ON POSTED AGENDA (To be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting)

The Commission continued the discussion on the workers compensation insurance issue to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mary Callagy
Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Gene Romig, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Martha Littlefield, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Demetria Ward, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Ken Wales, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Steve Erickson, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Gordon Trask, County Counsel